



EIDXA NEWLETTER

WINTER 1994

Club Meeting

DATE: 21st of January 1994 (Friday)

TIME: 7:00 PM (door open 6:00 PM for eyeball socializing)

PLACE: ROOM 304
Benton Hall
Kirkwood Community College
Cedar Rapids

AGENDA: Business meeting, program (Peter I),
Pizza and socializing

This is the first meeting hosted by the new club officers. President Tom, WB8ZRL, thought it appropriate to show the Peter I DXpedition video to stimulate the 1994 chase of the "most" needed country! We hope you will bring along an idea, QSL, treasure, or story to share with fellow DXers. We are looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. Please plan on paying your DUES too!

1994 EIDXA OFFICERS

President: WB8ZRL Tom Vavra
V.Pres: W0WP Tom Lindgren (editor)
SEC/Tres: K0GT Gary Toomsen

REPEATER COMMITTEE:

K0VM, Al Groff
W0MJN, Joe Finkstein

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

W0SR, Jim Spencer
W0IZ, Dale Repp

DX CLUSTER SYSOP:

WB8ZRL, Tom Vavra

EIDXA REPEATER:

145.19 MHz, W0MJN

DX CLUSTER:

144.91 MHz, WB8ZRL

REMEMBERING NOEL

BRIEF ON JOE RATKEWICZ, NOEL

Joe was an Erie, Pa., boy who learned code and became a ham during high school age. When WW2 broke out, the services were not accepting anyone who had only one eye (Joe lost his left eye as a teenager due to a rifle blowing up in his face) so he joined the merchant marine and was "Sparks" on MM ships during the war and several years afterward. Not being a drinking man, he got text books and studied physics during his off duty times. When in port he would look up the local professor to help him solve problems he was having. Later when he saved enough to finance himself thru college he got a degree in physics. He worked for AC Spark Plug and then for the Army. His last project with the Army Weapons Command was the development of tank laser range finders.

As an amateur, he loved to build amplifiers, teach code and theory. He was always helping the new ham with their problems. He had NR 1 award in DXCC, WAZ, 5BDDXCC, 5BWS and others. He was a volunteer examiner from it's inception, wrote several articles for QST, loved to get in pileups, had no use for CB, spoke his mind without mincing words, and had no use for quitters.

He had two sons and two daughters and five grandchildren.

He had quite a bout with bone cancer which spread thru his whole system and never complained to the very end. We are going to miss this great guy.

de N9OK

NET:

SUNDAY EVE @ 9:30 PM LOCAL
EIDXA REPEATER FREQ.

15 October 1993

The fall meeting of the EIDX was held at Benton Hall on the Kirkwood campus.

On a motion by VZR, second by N9OK the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

On a motion by N9OK, second by AA0ME, the treasurers report was approved.

It was announced that 1994 dues are payable.

K0GVB passed around some 50's vintage catalogs.

A new Lowband DX magazine is being published.

There was no old business.

New business: W0SR gave the DXAC report. E3 is to be reinstated as of May 24, 1991. Pratis Is. vote is pending as is Mt. Athos status. The DXAC manual is published. RTTY Honor Roll has been proposed. Call letter issues, QSLing and Expedition practices continue to be discussed.

K0VM reported new final transistors were installed in the repeater transmitter.

K0VZR-G3WJN report no news on the packet cluster.

KE0Y suggested club awards for CQWW contest activity. No action taken.

There are 3 membership applications waiting for interviews.

Officer elections were held with the following results:
K0GT Sec.-Treas. W0WP Vice Pres. WB8ZRL President.

Linn County tower ordinance report given by W0EJ.

K0JGH led off a discussion on O QSL Bureau problems. There were several suggestions made. No formal action taken.

Motion by W00AWL to adjourn carried.

Respectively,

Gary Toomsen, K0GT
Secretary/Treasurer

A WORD FROM THE PREZ

The contest season is well underway, and several EIDXAers were heard in the CQWW contests. Conditions were much better this year for the cw contest as there was not the ice on all the antennas as was the case in 1992. Freezing rain was forecast for the weekend, but the weatherman couldn't even get that right. Forty meters was fantastic with over 100 countries heard and 37 zones known active. The contest was a good warmup for the biggest DXpedition of the new year. The rarest of the rare, Peter I, will be activated the first week of February. And the pileups will be like the VP8SSI and 3Y5X of previous years. This DXpedition will be at one of the most inhospitable places on the earth, and one of the most difficult to get to. A video of the previous trip will be shown at the club meeting. As we fight the pileups from a cozy shack, we can be thankful that it is someone else out there.

The rest of the contest season resumes this month. The CQ 160 cw contest is the 29-30 of January, and the ssb event is 27-28 February. Richard, G3WJN and Al, N9OK, are heading up an effort for these two weekends from a rented site with a grain elevator to hang antennas from. They are looking for operators for either/both of these weekends. If you have never been on 160 for lack of antennas (or room for antennas) try your hand from this station. Contact Richard via PacketCluster. February and March see the ARRL DX contests and the opportunity to work some new ones to satisfy your band/mode needs.

A number of us use CT to log during the contests. I found a 'trainer' program for CT cw users. It was written by AH0K for the JA operators that contest from AH0. It looks just like CT and 'calls' you for contest exchanges. An hour of practice before the contest will have you rearing to go when 00Z comes. It works great on my AT and XT, but the cw was way too fast on NB0H's 40MHz 486. If anyone wants a copy, please let me know and I will bring some copies to the club meeting on floppy disk.

I hope to see each of you on the 21st, and hope you enjoyed the holidays.

cu in the pileups,
73/dx Tom WB8ZRL

EIDXA TREASURER REPORT

\$447.21 FORWARDED FROM PREVIOUS
TREASURER WA0FYG.

\$5.00 DUES RECEIVED TOTAL ON
HAND \$452.21. de K0GT

EASTERN IOWA DX ASSOCIATION ROSTER 1993

KU0A	Nelson Moyer	28 Ealing Drive	Iowa City, Ia 52246
K0AL	Al Culbert	328 Norman Dr NE	Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402
WD0AWL	Terry Cellman	703 Lincoln Street	Ainsworth, Ia 52201
WB0B	Larry Newby	P.O. Box 185	W. Burlington, Ia 52655
KZ0C	Jim Bohnsack	1169 Rainbow Dr	Waterloo, Ia 50701
KB0CFD	Lloyd Thornburg	RR#1 Box 28	Packwood, Ia 52580
KA0CNN	Thomas Kueny	2025 Cardinal Ln NE	North Liberty, Ia 52317
AA0CS	Jeff Barker	P.O. Box 325	Toledo, Ia 52342
KA0CWR	Mary Dennis	400 East Vine	Toledo, Ia 52342
WV0D	Terry Perkins	3119 Falsen Dr NE	Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402
K0DAS	Rod Blocksom	690 East View Drive	Robins, Ia 52328
N0DGE	Tom Irwin	1023 Kirkwood Ave.	Iowa City, Ia 52240
W0EJ	Wade Walstrom	7431 Macon Dr. NE	Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402
NM0F	Wayne Kinnard	219 Park Lane	East Dubuque, Ill 61025
WA0FYG	Rick Hadley	115 Scenic Drive	Vinton, Ia 52349
AA0GG	Frank Weigelt	4055 Stewart Rd NE	Iowa City, Ia 52240
KC0GM	Carol Cooper	912 W 16th Street	Cedar Falls, Ia 50613
K0GT	Gary Toomsen	2730 Tower Drive	Cedar Rapids, Ia 52401
K0GVB	Gary Ernst	RR #2	West Branch, Ia 52358
W0GWK	Frank Apple	1935 16th Street	Marion, Ia 52302
KF0H	Jim Harvey	819 Main Street	Goldfield, Ia 50542
NB0H	Jack Muckler	2084 Eastern Blvd SE	Cedar Rapids, Ia 52403
WK0I	Terry Parker	535 Sierra Drive	Burlington, Ia 52601
N0ICI	Grant Kesselring	RR #7 Box 160	Ottumwa, Ia 52501
K0IIR	Clark Pantel	1610 Hersey Ave.	Muscatine, Ia 52761
K0INR	Tom Taylor	29981 280th St.	Shell Rock, Ia 50670
W0IZ	Dale Repp	1618 Texas Ave. NE	Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402
N0JCM	John Mayer	500 37th Ave. N.	Clinton, Ia 52732
K0JGH	Glen Kesselring	RR #7 Box 160	Ottumwa, Ia 52501
NN0L	Ron Borkgren	1106 E 2nd Street	Anamosa, Ia 52205
AB0M	Vern Lang	110 E 2nd Street	Muscatine, Ia 52761
WE0M	Tom Gordon	6904 Brentwood Dr NE	Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402
W0MJN	Joe Finkstein	2210 Empire Street	Marion, Ia 52302
KE0MO	Tom Redlinger	RR #1 Box 146	Keota, Ia 52248
NK0N	Orville Dueker	226 Southcrest	Waterloo, Ia 52702
W0NB	Jim Livengood	RR #1 Feere's Ln	Burlington, Ia 52601
W4NIM	Bob Hill	2037 SW 61st Ave.	Miami, Fla 33155
N0NQA	Frank Duecker	RR #1 Box 202	Lisbon, Ia 52253
NC0O	Tom Hise	P.O. Box 104	Shellsburg, Ia 52332
N9OK	Al Broendel	2712 38th Street	Rock Island, Ill 61201
K8DM	Joq Hungate	700 33rd Ave.	Marion, Ia 52302
NU0P	Steve White	5820 Sanden Rd. NE	Cedar Rapids, Ia 52401
W0PPF	George Carsner	411 Terrace Road	Iowa City, Ia 52245
KC0Q	Jeff Russell	2125 Linmar Drive NE	Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402
WW0Q	Rich Bingham	707 12th Ave.	Coralville, Ia 52241
KK0R	Bob Tillman	P.O. Box 1	Eldora, Ia 50627
N4RR	Roger Hoffman	17215 Timber Drive	Sterling, Ill 61081
K0RW	John Lenahan	923 N 9th Street	Burlington, Ia 52601
N0SM	Steve Miller	Rte 6 Box 180	Ottumwa, Ia 52501
W0SML	Doug Byal	2323 Springbrook Drive	Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402
W0SR	Jim Spencer	3712 Tanager Drive NE	Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402
WA3TIH	John Simander	P.O. Box 763	Muscatine, Ia 52761
KK0U	Paul Feddersen	703 Eclipse Lane	Clinton, Ia 52732
WE0U	George Gruenther	1106 S. Leebrick	Burlington, Ia 52601

WR0U	Scott Augsburg	310 S. Wilson Street	Mt. Pleasant, Ia	52641
W0UZ	John Nelson	3109 Terry Dr. SE	Cedar Rapids, Ia	52403
NY0V	Tom Vinson	10211 Hall Road NE	Cedar Rapids, Ia	52402
K0VM	Al Groff	1446 Council St. NE	Cedar Rapids, Ia	52402
K0VZR	Tom White	2027 Carter Ave.	Jesup, Ia	50648
G3WJN	Richard Bennett	1906 Valley Vista Dr	Bettendorf, Ia	52722
W0WP	Tom Lindgren	9786 Blairs Ferry Rd	Cedar Rapids, Ia	52411
KE0Y	Tom Kramer	905 Leroy	Muscatine, Ia	52761
KU0Y	James Sereda	915 Hayes Street	Burlington, Ia	52601
KF0Z	Jan Clute	320 College Blvd.	Mount Vernon, Ia	52314
WB0ZKG	Chuck Dennis	400 E. Vine	Toledo, Ia	52342
WB8ZRL	Tom Vavra	682 Palisades Access Rd	Ely, Ia	52227

Tidbits

One of the things I enjoyed most about editing the Newsletter several years back was doing the column Tidbits. It gave me a chance to share some of the less newsy activities and let the forum of members know what's going on with fellow members. Of course we can only report what we hear, observe or are told, this being the case help us out by reporting what is happening.

The Linn County tower committee has been meeting on a regular basis (according to WB8ZRL) and have not settled on a set of ordinances agreeable to the county board or the hams. One of the main issues that needs to be worked out is the limiting height. The radio amateurs would agree to 200 feet and the county is saying no more than 125 feet. The height measured to the highest point of the structure. Representing the amateur community, on the county board, is Wade Walstrom W0EJ and the ham action committee includes WB8ZRL, NY0V and W0EJ. This is a very time consuming, ulcer generating bunch of meeting that require diplomatic talent to hash out the details. We certainly appreciate the guys efforts on our behalf!

Living out in the county now has afforded us with the luxury of having the space for a 160 meter inverted vee, something that was not possible in our QTH is Marion. Now sporting a TL922 Kenwood amp with a 160 meter position, I have been periodically engaging in Top Band country chasing. Knowing that K0GVB, W0EJ and KK0U have achieved DXCC on this band makes me think I can too. Glenn K0JGH and Jim KF0H have also been pile-hopping with me on 1.8 MHz. It has been a challenge to say the least but surprisingly good opening some evenings makes it well worth the time spent. Would you beleive working Europe from Iowa at 6PM local was possible or logging 22 countries in CQWW CW 1993?

Speaking of Top Band N0SM and crew did another bang up job in this years CW 160 test. Annually they go head to head with NC0P and crew.

Another large tower has arose off of Tower Terrace road west of CR. W0SML, Doug has in place a KT34XA at about 80 feet. In his new QTH Doug plans to be more active and have several ideas for antenna on 160 meters. With the spacious QTH, there is plenty of opportunity to erect!

After being lightning struck this Summer, Joe W0MJN has replace several pieces of equipment in his arsenal including a new TH7DXX and a new Henry amplifier. It appears to be 'doing the job' a Joe turned a fine score in CQWW SSB test this Fall.

We say our 73s and best wishes to Brad Farrel, KD0RT, who has QSYed to Jefferson City, Mo.

K0GT reports.....(New antennas at K0GT this season) The 160 inverted V allowed a few mults in the CQWW but is lately picking up some broadcast intermod from what I think rusty hardware activity. Probably try something else next season. On 80m I have an inverted V for phone and use the HF2-V on CW. The vertical seems quieter and hears better in most comparisons. May have to rig a remote relay to switch the loading coil for phone and CW use. Also use the HF2-V on 40m. The Tuning on 40 is broad enough to cover most of the band. New this year on 40m is a Mosely 2 el beam. It is tuned for CW and is fixed on the side of the tower at 70 ft. I had hoped to be able to rotate it about 120 deg. but the elements catch on the guy wires. I can rotate it buy loosening the boom hardware and dipping the elements past the guys but it's not convenient in winter weather. So looks like if I want to get some use out of it, I will need to mount it above the top guys on a ringrotor. New for the WARC bands, I put up a Cushcraft D-3W rotary dipole at 105ft. Lastly at the top of the tower I added a new 2m Isopole for packet. I continue to use the KT34XA on 20,15 and 10 meters. Already thinking about changes for next year. I better not say anything to the XYL about that until after Christmas! de K0GT

Thanks ever so much to the following Newsletter contributors: WB8ZRL, KE0MO, K0GT, K0GVB, WD0AWL, N9OK and everyone who answered our EIDX survey! de WP

HAMFEST REVIEW de WDOAWL

As of Oct 30, the 1993 hamfest season ended for me. Now all I have are the reflections of 93 and expectations of 94. The 93 hamfest season was a good one for me. No major purchases were made, but many smaller toys were gathered.

The hamfest season for many starts in January at Wheaton Illinois. Although I have never been to this event, hams that have gone say this is a good hamfest. It has a full compliment of activities; V.E. exams, flea mkt, commercial tables, and seminars.

The February hamfest calendar leads most Eastern Iowans to the Rock Island hamfest. Recently moved to a larger facility, the hamfest suffered in its initial new year, but has been improving with each passing year. The Rock Island hamfest lacks seminars.

March leads many Illinois hams to Sterling Ill. I have been to this hamfest once and probably won't return unless I have a terminal case of winter cabin fever. This was a very small hamfest held on a large gym floor. Save your money for Dayton.

April is the red letter month for hams. What can be said about the Dayton Hamvention? I guess I'll just say, if you haven't been there go!

May brings us the relatively new hamfest at Marshalltown. It features V.E. exams, a free tailgate area, and commercial dealers.

June starts off with one of my regular hamfests. The Starved Rock Radio Club presents their hamfest at Princeton Illinois. It features a large free outdoor flea mkt, and commercial vendors. It is easy to access as it is only 2 miles from I-80. June also features the Des Moines Radio Club hamfest. I put this one in the same category as the Sterling hamfest. Don't go unless you have other things you need to take care of in Des Moines. This hamfest will take you one hour to take in. One rule of any hamfest should be: NEVER GO TO THE HAMFEST IF IT TAKES LONGER TO GET THERE THAN IT DOES TO TAKE IN THE HAMFEST.

July seems to be the dead month in hamfests for EIDXAers. If you have been to a good hamfest in July, let me know and I will put it on my schedule.

August brings us all together at the Cedar Rapids hamfest. It is this writers opinion that this hamfest is slowly getting better. The one change I would make in this hamfest would be to eliminate the EIDXA meeting from this event. Perhaps this is something we might discuss at one of our future meetings.

September opens with one of my favorite fests. It is a two day event at the Peoria Illinois Expo Gardens. I usually stay over Friday night and take in the hamfest Saturday. Having been to both days, I can say with some authority that Saturday is by far the best day to attend.

It has the largest outdoor flea market, next to Dayton. It has two large buildings for commercial exhibitors and several other buildings for speciality dealers. It features V.E. exams, forums, a Saturday night banquet, large flea mkt, commercial vendors and the best food at any hamfest I have attended.

October usually ends the hamfest season for EIDX members. Many of us enjoy the West Liberty hamfest. This hamfest has grown steadily over the last 7 or 8 years, and probably gets its popularity by being the last fling of the season. It is by far the friendliest hamfest I have attended. People spend as much time rag chewing with fellow hams as they do viewing the merchandise. West Liberty features a free outdoor flea mkt, V.E. exams, and a good mix of commercial dealers.

The West Liberty event did not end the hamfest season for me in 93. On October 30, my wife and I attended the St. Paul Minn, Hamfest. Although I broke my one main hamfest rule, (don't go if it takes you longer to get there than to view the fest), this one will be on my schedule for 94. It featured a large area of commercial vendors surrounded by a large flea mkt, all of this inside the St. Paul Civic Center. Several major manufactures were present; Icom, Ramsey, and Sommer Antennas. The commercial dealers included Burghardt Electronics, Satellite City, and several computer stores from the metro area. This hamfest is easy to reach (just off I-35 E) and about 10 miles from the Mega Mall. This makes a nice hamfest for you and the wife to take in. Hamfest in the morning, Mega Mall in the afternoon, and an evening on the town. Plan ahead, motel rooms fill up fast.

See you at the next hamfest.

de WDOAWL

Some of the 1993 Contest scores

CALLSIGN	CONTEST	QSOS	QSO PTS	ZONES	COUNTRIES	SCORE
KF0H	CQWWCW	1314	3664	145	397	1,985,888
KF0H/KZ0C	CQWWSSB	1008	2719	137	391	1,435,632
W0WP	CQWWSSB	652	1827	113	279	716,184
W0WP	CQWWCW	1009	2800	130	346	1,332,800
NK0N	CQWWSSB	390	1080	66	167	251,640
K0INR	CQWWSSB	327	803	78	166	195,932
K0INR	CQWWCW	103	232	41	69	25,520

These are the only scores I have from the CQ magazine contests. To make eligible our composit club score, a list of our club members was submitted to the CQ magazine contest committee. I noticed in the nick of time that the submittal time of logs to the committee was only one month compared to a much longer period in previous years. With the advent of CT and other logging programs, I guess they feel compiling log data is no longer a long time process. (I can attest to that here!)

Letter to Tom Redinger KØØMO

HI TOM

LET'S SEE IF I CAN TELL YOU A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THIS WONDERFUL YL/DXPEDITION.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE FACTS:

EQUIPMENT: KENWOOD TS130S CAME WITH THE SHACK. ALSO OPERATED A KENWOOD TS50S, WHICH WAS LOANED TO US BY GORDON WEST.

ANTENNA: 3 ELEMENT BEAM UP APPROX 60 FEET

WE RENTED A TWO BEDROOM HOUSE WHICH, TO OUR SURPRISE, CAME WITH A SWIMMINGPOOL AND A MAID.

OPERATED MOSTLY ON 15m AND 20m, A LITTLE ON 17m and 10m. 40m DIDN'T WORK AT ALL FOR US. THERE MAY HAVE BEEN AN ANTENNA PROBLEM, BUT OUR HOST WAS IN THE STATES AND SO ALL OUR TECHNICAL EXPERTISE WAS GONE. JANET WAS BRAVE ENOUGH TO DO A LITTLE CW BUT WAS VERY RELIEVED NOT TO GET A PILE UP.

WE WERE ON THE AIR AROUND THE CLOCK WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 3 TIMES WHEN WE CLOSED DOWN FOR JUST A FEW HOURS. WENT TO DINNER AT OUR WONDERFUL HOSTS, TOOK THEM TO DINNER AND ONE NIGHT WE SIMPLY JUST COULDN'T MAKE IT OUT OF BED.

DURING THAT TIME WE HAD A TOTAL OF ROUGHLY 3100 CONTACTS. 2400 STATESIDE, 700 IN ABOUT 70 COUNTRIES.

TO NAME SOME:

ISRAEL, ZAIRE, CHILE, CUBA, BOLIVIA, PORTUGAL, GERMANY, SPAIN, BALEARIC ISLANDS, CEUTA AND MELILLA, IRELAND, FRANCE, ISLE OF MAN, NEW CALEDONIA, ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, GUERNSEY & DEP., WALES, HUNGARY, SWITZERLAND, ECUADOR, HAITI, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, COLOMBIA, PANAMA, ITALY, SARDINIA, JAPAN, PUERTO RICO, NORWAY, ARGENTINA, LUXEMBOURG, AUSTRIA, FINLAND, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, BELGIUM, FAROE ISLANDS, DENMARK, NETHERLANDS, BRASIL, SWEDEN, POLAND, GREECE, GUATEMALA, RUSSIA (ASIATIC & EUROPEAN) UKRAINE, GEORGIA, LITHUANIA, LATVIA, ESTONIA, BELIZE, AUSTRALIA, MEXICO, YUGOSLAVIA, VENEZUELA, UK SOV BASE ON CYPRUS, NEW ZEALAND, BOTSWANA, CHINA, MONGOLIA, HONDURAS, PAPUA NEW GUINUEA, BRASIL, BRUNËI, BERMUDA,

WE WERE ALL VERY INEXPERIENCED IN DXing, MATTER OF FACT WE DOWNRIGHT DIDN'T KNOW A THING, AND NANCEE HAD NEVER EVEN BEEN ON HF, ALTHOUGH SHE HOLDS AN ADVANCED LICENSE.

GAYLE AND I ARE ALREADY WORKING ON OUR NEXT YL DXPEDITION LOCATION. JUST RECEIVED SOME LEADS ON ARGENTINA, SAMOA AND BELIZE. STAY TUNED, AN OTHER YL/DXPEDITION IS IN THE MAKING.

HOPE THIS PROVIDES ENOUGH AMMUNITION FOR YOUR LOCAL NEWSLETTER. WILL YOU SEND ME A COPY?? PLEASE !!

73's & 88's,

E. Allen - N6XJM

YL/DXPEDITION TO MONTSERRAT

JULY 23 - JULY 30 1993

Memories - Ellen Tessitore

Opening day. First time on the air. A contact here, a contact there
an other

CQ CQ CQ this is the YL/DXpedition on Montserrat
I am VP2M/N6XJM QRZ?

and "BOOM", my first pile-up. Instant sweaty palms, sweaty armpits and
fear in the heart. OH MY GOD!!!!!!!!!!!!

The awesome moment when realization struck that the whole world, THE
WHOLE WORLD was listening (and was witness to my fumbling attempts to
work the first few pile-ups.

The voice shouting over the murmur of the pile-up: "I WANT ELLEN".
(he was going for the 4th YL)

My first contact with home. GEORGE, IS THAT YOU GEORGE? VNI, N6VNI
COME ON IN... and my mouth runneth over.

I have learned to work a pile-up. I no longer break out into a sweat.
I ACTUALLY ENJOY IT. We all do. (Even Nancee???)

The only shift I wanted to sit out but didn't. Turned the beam east
and lo and behold there was Europe. What a kick to talk with all those
accents, and yack a little DEUTSCH in the process. An all time high at
the end of the shift. Probably drove the other YL's nuts spilling out
the nitty gritty details afterwards. (Janet visiting the shack and
telling everybody: What fun, Ellen was actually talking German.)

Watch Gayle on the mike. Radiant face, laughing, twinkling eyes,
boyant body. Gayle doesn't need drugs to get high, just give her a mike.
SEVEN THREEEEEE....

Sneaking to the shack at 5:00 in the morning only to find out that
Janet had beat me to it.

Monday night 11:00 PM, day 3. Ellen, your turn, you have to relieve
Nancy!! OH NO, I wined, I'm too tired to work another pile-up..... but
off to the shack I go, or is it a torture chamber? And sure enough,
disaster. Can't pick up a single callsign, not even 2 letters in a
row. My mind is dead. MURMER, MURMER says the pile-up. What's your
call sign I ask? KC.. what?, still need your prefix.. your suffix.. the
number... please repeat, say it again, and again and again... an hour
to best be forgotten.

A quiet early morning walk exploring Montserrat's beauty amongst the cows, sheep, goats with wind in my hair, sun on my face, ocean ahead, blue skies above and, WATCH IT, too late...cow dung under my shoes.

MEMORY PLURPS

BLESS YOU, I've tried to get thru for 2 days.

FINALLY.....this is WB3GVT. I've tried to get in for 48 hours,

The pride of the 10 year old telling me that it took him only 2 calls to get in and his Dad 3 hours.

The 12 year old boy I called a YL and then mumbled something about his voice soon changing and getting deeper...his QSL card read: "Hope my voice will NEVER change".

The Texas YL longing to go on a YL DXpedition but too...one thing or the other to do it.

Hans, VE3BWE in Canada telling me all about his bus trips thru Canada, US and Mexico in German while I answered mostly in English. (Must have sounded strange to those listening.)

Boys at a camp-out, HIIIII ELLEN

The elated shout of ROGER, ROGER, ROGER, when finally pulling a call sign out of the mud.

Hi, this is Roger, GDOPLT on the Isle of Man. Where in the h... is the Isle of Man?

Dinner at the Brittain's. Great dinner, good drinks, GREAT COMPANY. What NICE people.

HELP !!! all those Europeans Ellen worked followed me to the States. How can I get rid of them? I can't understand them and I have a headache. (Nancee)

I've only been on the radio 1 time this morning...sniffle, sniffle (Gayle)

Let me explain the computer program... Select E on the main menu, A on the next, log to your sub directory and make sure....(Janet)

I've got another mosquito bite..., do I still have 13 braids? (Nancee)

Guten Morgen Dieter. Sie sind mein erster deutscher Kontakt....
73 und 55. (Ellen)

Our Rastafarian bead maker, grinning: No Darling, I'm not tired, just stoned.

Champagne toast on the return flight and all those wonderful things we said about each other. What a bunch of great SOFTIES we were.

The afterglow as Gayle calls it, or as I heard Janet describe it on a repeater, this trip continuous to give me pleasure. ROGER, ROGER ROGER from here.

And the pleasure goes on and on. Dinners, picture sharing, reliving moments. QSL cards in the mail box.

A PERFECT FINISH TO A PERFECT VACATION:

Friday Morning 6:00 am. YL/DXpedition is completed, off the air, finished. All is quiet. Other YL's still sleeping. Quick calculation... I need 30 minutes to pack, 20 minutes to shower and get dressed, 15 minutes for breakfast...BINGO, I have about 15 minutes left to play a little radio. Wonder who's out there this morning. CQ, CQ..

Good morning Ray, PY8ATD in Panama,
73 Steve, AC4KN in Florida,

QRZ?

VP2M/N6XJM this is HR2BDC, name here is Dean and I am in Honduras. AM I GLAD I FOUND YOU. I've worked Gayle 3 times, Janet twice, Nancee once but you always eluded me. Heard that you are an early riser and set my alarm. Hoped you couldn't resist the radio and go on the air one more time before leaving for the airport. YOU MADE MY DAY. Now I can go back to sleep. THANK YOU for getting up early, THANK YOU for getting on the air again and THANK YOU for working me...

To all of you who worked us, to all of you who tried to work us, and especially to you DEAN, let me say a heart felt

THANK YOU !!

THE PLEASURE WAS ALL MINE !!

The Four-Elf Problem

In order for Santa to comply with the new laws for employers, he needs to maintain records for all his elves. He has all the information he needs for most of his elves, but he still needs information on the four elves he recently hired to help out during the Christmas rush. The four fun-loving elves have given Santa the information he needs, but in the form of a puzzle. Can you help Santa with his paperwork? Use the clues below to fill out the form at the bottom of this page.

- * The four elves are standing in a line in order of increasing height.
- * Banky is standing next to Bonky.
- * The elf nicknamed "Snowman" is the cook.
- * Bunky is the carpenter.
- * The painter is standing between the elves with green card numbers 3634277 and 8546983.
- * The elf with green card number 3634277 is nicknamed "Candyman."
- * Bonky is the tallest.
- * The elf nicknamed "Starman" is the quality control officer.
- * Binky is standing next to Bunky.
- * The carpenter is not standing next to the cook.
- * Binky is nicknamed "Pacman."
- * Bonky's green card number is 8422727.
- * The elf with green card number 8546983 is the quality control officer.
- * One of the elves has green card number 3964076.
- * Merry Christmas!

Name				
Nickname				
Green Card Number				
Job				

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NEW DX BULLETIN: LOW BAND MONITOR BY LANCE JOHNSON

A new DX bulletin dedicated to the Low Bands called the *Low Band Monitor* began publication a few months ago. Authored by Lance Johnson, alias KOCS, this new monthly rag focuses on the 40-80-160 bands.

The bulletin features antenna tips, station reviews of well known low banders, product reviews, DXpedition tales and low band activity reports. It is written in a style that is refreshing and uniquely loaded with "Gecwiczisms." It contains just a slight hint of humor along with a philosophical view of DX that could be described as a cross between 20th century Existentialism and Zen Buddhism.

Several KCDXC members are subscribers and it is highly recommended for anyone interested in low band DXing. Write Lance at BOX 1047, Elizabeth, CO 80107. for more info.

TKS KCDXC

W0SR